

Thought for the Week from Mother's Union
Sunday 11th December 2022



THE ANGLICAN LANTERN
PARISH OF WEST WYALONG
Including Tallimba, Ungarie, West Wyalong,
Wyalong and Yalgogrin Nth.



Mystery and Wonder

O Lion
Regal in Courage,
crushing our blighted bones
and hardened hearts,
come with one bound and roar,
awaken us, your stillborn whelps,
to new and vigorous life.

Jim Cotter 'Cries of Advent' No 7. From *Prayer in the Morning*,
Cairns Publications 1989.

*"To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles
are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the
hope of glory. Colossians 1:27"*

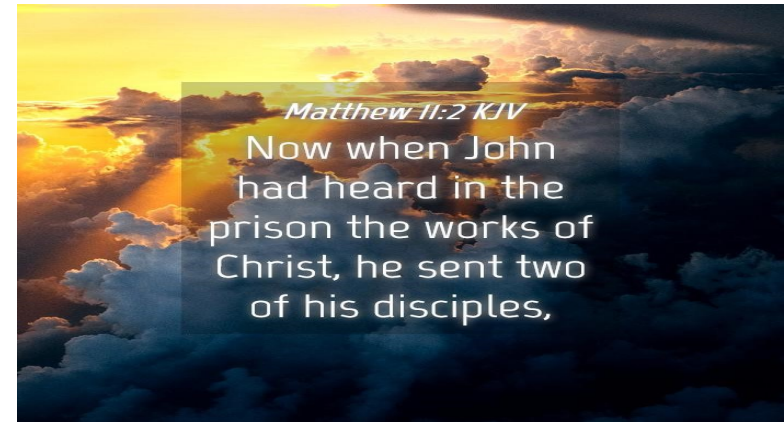
As we prepare for Christmas festivities, we offer prayers for the people of Madagascar where the economy suffered greatly due to environmental issues and poor agricultural practices while illiteracy is also an important issue. The average fertility rate per woman was greater than 6 and in September 2021 the country was in famine and donors are trying to help people also hit by climate change, pandemic and bad governance.



Rectory: 69722163
Glenn Murray: 0407 104 108
Wendy Murray: 0407 104 107
Postal: PO Box 273, West Wyalong 2671
Web site <http://www.wyanglican.org>
Face Book <http://www.facebook.com/wyanglican>
Email; office@wyanglican.org
Email: wendyjmulder@gmail.com

Wardens: Frank Magrath, Marie Seckold,
Geoff West
Secretary: Susan Haines 69723522
Treasurer: Frank Magrath Ph 69723079
Email frank.magrath@bigpond.com
Licensed Lay: Marie Seckold, Susan Haines,
Ministers Wendy and Glenn Murray
Hall Secretary Lyn Jamieson 0448 410 706
Pew Leaflet Wendy Mulder 0477 834 274

DECEMBER 11TH YEAR A 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT.



Sentence

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.' Isaiah 35: 3-4

Collect

Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love on our journey to meet the One who is coming: strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice as we behold the majesty of our God. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Isaiah 35: 1-10

1 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, **2** it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord , the splendour of our God. **3** Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; **4** say to those with fearful hearts, ‘Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.’ **5** Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. **6** Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. **7** The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. **8** And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. **9** No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, **10** and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon Notes:

*We welcome everyone
worshipping here today.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Congratulations to those celebrating:
Birthdays: Noel Stanisforth 13th.
No Anniversaries this week.



* * *

Please diarise that Bishop Mark will be visiting us on the 18th December for the 9.30 am service and in the evening at 6pm there will be a contemporary carol service. All are invited.

* * *

Wanted:

Cleaners on a volunteer basis to clean church twice a month. If you can help, please see Gwen Downey or Frank. Parish Council is looking to find a contract cleaner.

* * *

Notes:

Our new Priest, Rev Steven Klouth will be conducting his first service on the 22nd January 2023.

* * *

For those who would like to make a direct deposit into St. Barnabas bank account, the details are as follows:
BSB 082-912
Account No: 39-265-5435
Account Name: Saint Barnabas Anglican Church.

* * *

PCC Meeting today after Church.

* * *

Rev. Linda Boss will be conducting a service on Christmas Eve at 6pm with the blessing of the crib and Holy Communion.

She will also join us for Holy Communion on the 8th January 2023.

Get in touch with God

And you will be
Linked with the
source of eternal joy
And true divine life,
Which will then flow
into your heart.

MORNING PRAYER

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY Year C.

Licensed Lay
Minister on Duty

**Glenn Murray
Wendy Murray**

Isaiah 35: 1-10 Judith Markham

James 5: 7-10 Marie Seckold

Matthew 11: 2-11

Parish of West Wyalong Mission Statement

WE SHALL SERVE CHRIST AND OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AS AN ALL-AGE WELL-RESOURCED GROWING ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP USING THE "FIVE MARKS OF MISSION"

1. Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
2. Teach, baptise, and nurture new believers.
3. Respond to human need by loving service
4. Seek to transform unjust structures of society.
5. Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2022

Rev. 21: 1-7 Wendy Murray

Romans 1: 1-7 Fran Mitchell

Matthew 1: 18-25



Next Service 18TH DECEMBER

SIDE PERSONS:

Lyn Jamieson



hutterstock - 22333909

MORNING TEA



Coral Marshall



Arrangements have been made for professional cleaner to come

CHURCH CLEANING



BRASS CLEANING



FLOWER ARRANGING

Shirley Magrath

**Frank Magrath
Terry Butcher**



shutterstock - 223339093

COUNTING TODAY

Service Schedule



DURING THE WEEK:

Tuesday 10 am Morning Prayer

SERVICE FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.00 pm Holy Communion

Sermon Notes:

The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:

from this day all generations will call me blessed;

The Almighty has done great things for me:

and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:

from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones:

and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things:

and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:

to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever.

* * *

James 5: 7-10

7 Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming.

See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop,

patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. 8 You too, be

patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

9 Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or

you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

10 Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of

suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* * *



Prayer Requests

Our Nation : Prime Minister, Premier, our Mayor and Councillors. All elected and appointed people in positions of responsibility and their decision making.



Worldwide Church: The Anglican Church of Kenya.

National Church: The Diocese of Gippsland with Bishop Richard Treloar, clergy and people. Pray that clergy and people will be passionate about proclaiming the good news in word and deed.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Coolah-Dunedoo – wisdom for future ministry. Pray for Mothers Union, AWA and Cursillo within our Diocese that these groups will help people grow in their discipleship and be unified in the gospel our Lord Jesus Christ. We remember Bishop Mark and Susan in our prayers.

Local needs: Pray and give thanks for all who work in hospitals and medical centres: nurses, domestic staff, catering staff, doctors, research workers, pathology, reception, chaplains, volunteers – for strength and patience. Pray for those patients in hospital who are undergoing treatment, and all on your parish prayer list. Pray for healing and above all, an abundant peace which comes from trusting God.

Parish: We thank God for answering our prayers as we look forward to welcoming Steven & Caitlin Klouth and baby Hannah who will be joining us in the New Year.

Community: We pray for our community as a whole and St. Vincent De Paul, Anglicare, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Can Assist Committee, Far West Committee, Community Transport and their drivers. Ambulance and Police Services, all Doctors and Nursing Staff at our local hospital..

We pray for Healing for: All patients, who are in hospital, the Residents of the Waratah Village. We give thanks for the doctors and all staff who take care of them.

Faithful Departed: We pray for the families of their departed loved ones on the anniversary of their death: George Scriven, Cecil Roberts, Betty Wyse, Gordon Carter, Allen Bowland, Edward (Ted) Richens, James Grellman, Noah Wheatley, Isobelle Woods, Vern Davies (Turps), Elsa Sheridan, Robyn Zacher, Rene Trounsen, Fr. Robert Coutts, Jean Hargreaves, Ida O'Hara, James Boneham, Maud Brooks, Tanya Payne, Alice Thomas, Marjorie Vearing, Allen Allison, Ronald Ferris, Clinton Rattey.

ANGLICARE

Sentences, prayer and readings from Trust Corporation From the text of A Broughton Books. Reproduced with

APBA. Copyright 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Prayer Book for Australia, published under the imprint of permission. Individual names are published only with written permission Bible read-

Notes to Remember:

- *A Farewell luncheon for Wendy and Glenn Murray will take place on Sunday 18th December after church. Meat will be provided. Could Parishioners please supply a Salad or Sweet. There will be a list on table at back of church for people sign. Also, the number of those coming.*
- *At the request of the Murray's, any cash donations to go towards wardrobes in the Master Bedroom.*
- *At Parish Council Meeting on Sunday, it was decided that fund raising events could and should be held next year:*
- *The First event Pan Cake Night on Tuesday 21st February.*
- *Second event End of Day Light Breakfast.*
- *The Catering committee have been asked to organise these events, but they will require a lot of help. After the Christmas holidays we can put out rosters for those willing to help.*

* * *

Give Us Daily Awareness

On life's busy thoroughfares
We meet with angels unawares—
So, Father, make us kind and wise
So we may always recognise
The blessings that are ours to take,
The friendships that are ours to make
If we but open our heart's door wide
To let the sunshine of love inside.

The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ According to ...

Matthew 11: 2-11

2 When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples **3** to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?' **4** Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: **5** the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. **6** Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.' **7** As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? **8** If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. **9** Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10** This is the one about whom it is written : "I will send my messenger ahead of you , who will prepare your way before you." **11** Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

* * *

Moving Earth to save us.

The words of Luke 2:1-5 astound me. (Have you read them recently?)

I know and accept our Triune God to be capable of anything and everything. He made all we can see and do. My life has been changed by Jesus saving me and growing my faith.

But to cause the whole Roman Empire to return to their own town for a census: Just so Jesus can be born as our Saviour, seems extraordinary. Why so much upheaval and reorganisation?

There are two very strong connections with the Old Testament that make this necessary. Both equally important to God and for us.

Firstly, to prove the prophets and scribes correct as they prophesise and record that God keeps his promises. Always. God promised a new Adam to take away the sins of the world. One without sin.

Secondly, to carefully link the Old Testament to the New Testament with the prophecy that the Saviour would come out of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Even 400 years later God's promise is proved true. And Jesus, is born in Bethlehem.

Psalm 110:1 shows our God requiring Jesus, to sit until all evil is placed under his control. Heb 10:12-23 puts this promise in our own perspective. Our here and now.

Thousands of years later we wait expectantly for the promise of God, from Psalm 110:1 and repeated in Hebrews 10:12-14, to be completed. We wait for God to tell Jesus the time is right for him to judge the world and its people. Knowing that Jesus is promised to return when God is finished.

But all this means God has been moving parts of heaven and earth to start our rescue from sin through the repentance and forgiveness offered by Jesus. He moved much to gain us as children of Christ, who are faithful to Jesus in our belief and our practical action.

Enjoy and celebrate this Christmas knowing that our God loves each one of us. Our Almighty God has done these things for us to return and live with Him.

Glenn Murray.

